

### REMARKS

Applicant tenders herewith an additional claim 39 which is directed to the combination of the characterization of the macropore forming materials on the basis of strength as well as dissolution rate.

Applicant also advises that the inventor Hockin Xu spells his name more aptly as follows: Huakun Xu. In this regard, applicant respectfully requests that the spelling of the inventor's name be amended to said form: Huakun Xu. To the extent a further declaration and/or supplemental submissions are required, applicant will provide same as requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BANNER & WITCOFF, LTD.

Date: January 9, 2004

By: 

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